GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1678
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2001
ABOLITION OF ORGANISATIONS
MARGARET ALVA

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any references have come to the notice of the Government that so many dead undertakings/departments have been kept alive only to accommodate Bureaucrats and Senior Officers of the State;

(b) if so, whether the Government have studied the expenditure spent on them;

(c) the number of such Organisations identified so far;

(d) whether the Government propose to issue any directions to abolish such Organisations;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND M OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE. (SMT.VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a)to(f): No such references, as referred to in Part (a) of the Question have been received by the Government. The restructuring/rationalization of the Government manpower is a continuing exercise. Some of the steps taken by the Government to rightsize the Government work-force are as follows:

(i) The Government had taken a decision to achieve 10% reduction in the number of posts (as on 1.1.92). According to the information available with the Ministry of finance, approximately 1.83 lakh posts, pertaining to different Groups, have been abolished in various Ministries/Departments as a result of this exercise.

(ii) In the recent past, four Departments, namely, Department of Programme Implementation, Department of Industrial Development, Department of Sugar and Edible Oils, and the Department of Supply have been abolished/merged. In addition, the Departments of Telecom Services and Telecom Operations have been corporatised with effect from 1 October, 2000.

(iii) Ministry of finance (Department of Expenditure) has been issuing instructions from time to control creation of Plan and Non-Plan posts and thereby to reduce the expenditure on establishment. In August, 1999, instructions were issued by that Ministry to all the Ministries/Departments, inter alia, to undertake a review of all the posts which were lying vacant in the Ministries/Departments and in their Attached and Subordinate Offices, etc. in consultation with the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure). These instructions envisage that till the review is completed, no vacant posts will be filled up except with the approval of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure).

(iv) The Department of Personnel & Training have issued instructions in May, 2001 requesting all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India to restrict the recruitment to one-third of the direct recruitment vacancies occurring in each year subject to further ceiling that this does not exceed 1% of the total sanctioned strength of Ministries/Departments. The Ministries/Departments have accordingly been advised to prepare the Annual Direct Recruitment Plans, starting with the anticipated vacancies in the current financial year.

(v) The Expenditure Reforms Commission, set up by the Department of Expenditure to review, inter alia, the road map for reducing the functions, activities and administrative structure of Central Government has submitted 10 Reports in all covering 36 Ministries/Departments/Organisations. The recommendations contained in these Reports pertain to rightsizing/restructuring of these Ministries/Departments etc. The Department of Expenditure have requested respective Ministries/Departments to take follow up

action on the recommendations of the Commission.

2. Apart from the above it is stated that the business of the Central Government is transacted in various Ministries/Departments as per the allocation of business specified in the Government of India (allocation of Business) Rules, 1961. The number of Ministries/Departments is thus based on the administrative convenience at a given point of time and the creation/abolition/reorganization of the Ministries/Departments is the prerogative of the Prime Minister.